

Life Guide applying God's Word to life

November 4-6, 2023 : All Saints' Day

Theme: A vision of glory gives us assurance and endurance

Text: Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰And they cried out in a loud voice:

"Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

"All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, "saying:

"Amen!
Praise and glory
and wisdom and thanks and honor
and power and strength
be to our God for ever and ever.
Amen!"

¹³Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?"

¹⁴I answered, "Sir, you know."

And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵Therefore,

"they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

16'Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst.

The sun will not beat down on them,' nor any scorching heat.

17For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd;

'he will lead them to springs of living water.'

'And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

- 1. How long has it been since your loved one passed away? How are you doing with it? What are the things that remind you of them?
- 2. The book of Revelation is the prophecy of Jesus about what must soon take place. The book can seem intimidating to read. What has your experience reading it been like up to now?
- 3. Our text comes at the end of a seven-part vision called the vision of the Seven Seals. Most of the seals tell of trouble and pain and death. What assurance does Jesus give to us at the end of the vision?
- 4. If somebody was angry at God because of the loved one he/she had lost, or because of the troubles they were enduring in their life, how could you use this vision to try to help them see things differently?
- 5. Some bible interpreters take the pictures in Revelation overliterally. For example, some, like the Jehovah's Witnesses, believe that only 144,000 will be in heaven. How can we be sure from this text that there will be more than that?
- 6. Judgment Day is a polarizing day. For some, it's terrifying. Others are looking forward to it. How would you tell somebody who is afraid of it about the confidence you have for when Judgment Day comes?
- 7. In heaven we will be reunited with our believing loved ones. But the focus will be on the Lamb! Which is your favorite aspect of all the things the Lamb will do for us in verses 15-17?
- 8. How does the assurance Jesus gives us in this vision also give us endurance?